

# Resource Allocation for D2D Communications Underlying a NOMA-Based Cellular Network

Yijin Pan, Cunhua Pan, Zhaohui Yang, Ming Chen

**Abstract**—This letter investigates the power control and channel assignment problem in device-to-device (D2D) communications underlying a non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA) cellular network. With the successive interference cancellation decoding order constraints, our target is to maximize the sum rate of D2D pairs while guaranteeing the minimum rate requirements of NOMA-based cellular users. Simulation results validate the superiority of proposed resource allocation algorithm over the existing orthogonal multiple access scheme.

**Index Terms**—D2D, NOMA, power control, channel assignment.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The device-to-device (D2D) communications have been considered as a promising way to alleviate the upcoming traffic pressure on core networks. Due to the short transmission distance of D2D pairs, the spectrum efficiency can be significantly improved by the spectrum reuse with cellular users (CUs). Although uplink resources are normally provided for D2D communications [1], the traffic between uplink and downlink is becoming less asymmetric in the future networks [2]. Hence, the resource allocation problem for D2D communications in downlink should be studied as well [3], [4].

Apart from D2D communications, non-orthogonal multiple access (NOMA) is another emerging technology to handle the transmission pressure in the near future [5]. In a NOMA-based cellular network, multiple CUs are allowed to share the same subchannel via different power levels, and successive interference cancellation (SIC) is adopted at the CUs for decoding. In this way, the NOMA-based cellular network can greatly increase system throughput and allow massive connectivities. Recently, several approaches have been proposed to combine the D2D communications with NOMA technology [6], [7]. The D2D users were grouped through the NOMA way in [6] to achieve better D2D rate performance, and the channel allocation problem for the NOMA-based D2D groups is modeled as a Many-to-One matching. Furthermore, the D2D assisted NOMA scheme was proposed in [7] to enhance system throughput performance. D2D pairs were merely

assumed to transmit on exclusive channels without sharing channels with CUs in [7]. However, when D2D pairs reuse spectrum with NOMA-based CUs, the co-channel interference in SIC decoding will become further complicated, which may destroy the original SIC decoding order of CUs. To conquer this issue, one should impose an additional restriction for the power control and channel assignment of the D2D pairs, which has not been studied in current literature. This motivates us to reconsider the resource allocation problem for D2D communications when the D2D pairs share spectrum with the NOMA-based CUs.

In this letter, we consider the power control and channel assignment for the D2D pairs underlying NOMA-based cellular networks with consideration of the SIC decoding constraints. This scenario is different from that in [6], so that the approach in [6] cannot be directly applied to solve our problem. Our target is to maximize the sum rate of D2D pairs while guaranteeing the minimum rate requirements of CUs. We derive the optimal conditions for power control of the NOMA-based CUs first, then propose a dual-based iterative algorithm to solve the resource allocation problem. Finally, simulation results show the significant D2D sum rate gains of proposed algorithm over the conventional orthogonal multiple access (OMA) scheme.

## II. SYSTEM MODEL AND PROBLEM FORMULATION

Consider a downlink NOMA-based cellular network, where base station (BS) serves CUs through  $N$  subchannels (SCs). By adopting NOMA,  $M$  CUs are multiplexed in the same SC by splitting them in the power domain<sup>1</sup>. Meanwhile, there are  $K$  ( $K \leq N$ ) underlaid D2D pairs. Denote  $\mathcal{K} = \{1, \dots, K\}$  and  $\mathcal{N} = \{1, \dots, N\}$  as the sets of D2D pairs and SCs, respectively. The superposition symbol transmitted by BS on SC  $n$  to CUs is

$$x^n = \sum_{i=1}^M \sqrt{p_i^n} s_i^n, \quad (1)$$

where  $s_i^n$  and  $p_i^n$  are the transmit signal and transmit power for CU  $i$  on SC  $n$ , respectively.

Let  $h_i^n$  denote the channel from BS to CU  $i$  on  $n$ -th SC<sup>2</sup>. When  $|h_1^n| \leq |h_2^n| \leq \dots \leq |h_M^n|$ , CU  $i$  can successfully decode and remove the interference from CU  $j, \forall j < i$ . However, in our work, underlaid D2D pairs also contribute to the co-channel interference, which affects the NOMA decoding order.

<sup>1</sup>It is assumed that CUs served by the same SC are already scheduled.

<sup>2</sup>The receivers are assumed to have the perfect channel state information by channel feedback.

Manuscript received September 1, 2017; accepted September 27, 2017. This work was supported in part by the National Natural Science Foundation of China under Grant 61372106 and Grant 61221002, and in part by the NSTMP under Grant 2016ZX03001016-003. The associate editor coordinating the review of this paper and approving it for publication was X. Chu. (Corresponding author: Cunhua Pan.)

Y. Pan, Z. Yang and M. Chen are with the National Mobile Communications Research Laboratory, Southeast University, Nanjing 211111, China. Email: {panyijin, yangzhaohui, chenming}@seu.edu.cn. C. Pan is with the School of Electronic Engineering and Computer Science, Queen Mary, University of London, London E1 4NS, UK. Email: c.pan@qmul.ac.uk.

In this case, the received SINR at CU  $i$  to decode the signal  $s_j, j < i$ , on SC  $n$  is

$$\text{SINR}_{i \rightarrow j}^n = \frac{p_j^n |h_i^n|^2}{|h_i^n|^2 \sum_{t=j+1}^M p_t^n + \sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^n q_k^n |h_{k,i}^n|^2 + \sigma^2}, \quad (2)$$

where the binary variable  $\alpha_k^n$  denotes whether or not SC  $n$  is assigned to D2D pair  $k$ .  $q_k^n$  is the transmit power of D2D pair  $k$  and  $|h_{k,i}^n|$  represents the channel gain from D2D pair  $k$  to CU  $i$  on SC  $n$ . When CU  $i$  desires to decode the signal of CU  $j$ , the interference cancellation is successful if the CU  $i$ 's received SINR is no less than CU  $j$ 's own received SINR. Therefore, to protect the given SIC decoding order, the following conditions should be satisfied.

$$\frac{\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^n q_k^n |h_{k,j}^n|^2 + \sigma^2}{|h_j^n|^2} \geq \frac{\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^n q_k^n |h_{k,i}^n|^2 + \sigma^2}{|h_i^n|^2}, \quad (3)$$

for  $i, j \in \{1, \dots, M\} \triangleq \mathcal{M}$ ,  $j < i$ , and  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ . The set  $\mathcal{M}$  represents the set of CUs' index on each SC. Note that there will be  $\frac{M(M-1)}{2}$  constraints for each SC in the form of (3). To simplify the decoding order constraints, the following equivalent inequalities can be implied from (3)

$$\frac{\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^n q_k^n |h_{k,i}^n|^2 + \sigma^2}{|h_i^n|^2} \geq \frac{\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^n q_k^n |h_{k,i+1}^n|^2 + \sigma^2}{|h_{i+1}^n|^2}, \quad (4)$$

for  $i \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \{M\}$ , and  $n \in \mathcal{N}$ . In this form, there are only  $M-1$  constraints on each SC.

The achievable rate of CU  $i$  on SC  $n$  in bits/s/Hz is

$$R_{i \rightarrow i}^n = \log_2(1 + \text{SINR}_{i \rightarrow i}^n). \quad (5)$$

Although the spectrum efficiency can be improved by allowing multiple D2D pairs reusing same SC, it requires high computation complexity and heavy signaling overhead exchange. Therefore, we assume that one SC is only allocated to at most one D2D pair, and the channel assignment constraints are:

$$\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^n \leq 1, \alpha_k^n \in \{0, 1\}, \forall n \in \mathcal{N}, k \in \mathcal{K}. \quad (6)$$

The SINR at the receiver of D2D pair  $k$  on SC  $n$  is

$$\text{SINR}_k^n = \frac{q_k^n |g_k^n|^2}{|g_{k,B}^n|^2 \sum_{i=1}^M p_i^n + \sigma^2}, \quad (7)$$

where  $|g_k^n|$  is the channel gain between the transmitter and receiver of D2D pair  $k$  on SC  $n$ , and  $|g_{k,B}^n|$  is the interference channel gain from BS to the receiver of D2D pair  $k$  on SC  $n$ . In this case, the achievable rate of D2D pair  $k$  on SC  $n$  in bits/s/Hz is

$$R_k^n = \log_2(1 + \text{SINR}_k^n). \quad (8)$$

Meanwhile, the minimum rate requirements for CUs are

$$R_{i \rightarrow i}^n \geq \gamma_i^n, \forall i \in \mathcal{M}, n \in \mathcal{N}, \quad (9)$$

where  $\gamma_i^n$  is the rate requirement of CU  $i$  on SC  $n$ . The transmit power constraints for D2D pairs and CUs are

$$\sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_k^n q_k^n \leq P_{\max}^D, \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, \quad (10)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^M p_i^n \leq P_{\max}^C, \forall n \in \mathcal{N}. \quad (11)$$

To maximize the sum rate of D2D pairs, the following optimization problem is obtained.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}1 : \quad & \max_{\{p_k^n, \alpha_k^n, q_k^n\}} R_{\max}^D = \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_k^n R_k^n, \\ & \text{s.t.} \quad (4), (6), (9) - (11). \end{aligned} \quad (12a)$$

### III. POWER CONTROL AND CHANNEL ASSIGNMENT

In this section, we first investigate the optimal conditions for power control of CUs. Then, we propose a dual-based iterative method to obtain the resource allocation for D2D pairs.

#### A. Optimal Power Control for CUs

If SC  $n$  is assigned to D2D pair  $k$ , we first determine the optimal transmit power conditions for CUs. For simplicity, the superscript  $n$  is omitted in the following analysis of this subsection. To solve the power control problem, we define

$$\xi_{k,i} = \frac{|h_{k,i}|^2}{|h_i|^2}, \Delta_i = \frac{\sigma^2}{|h_i|^2}, \forall i \in \mathcal{M}. \quad (13)$$

It is easy to know that the constraint (9) should hold with equality for the optimal transmit power of CU  $i$  denoted as  $p_i^*, \forall i \in \mathcal{M}$  [3], [4]. Otherwise, the sum rate of D2D pairs can be further improved by decreasing  $p_i^*$ . Setting (9) with equality for CU  $M$ , we have

$$p_M^* = (2^{\gamma_M} - 1)(q_k \xi_{k,M} + \Delta_M). \quad (14)$$

Accordingly, for the CU  $i, \forall i \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \{M\}$ , the optimal transmit power  $p_i^*$  is

$$p_i^* = (2^{\gamma_i} - 1) \left( q_k \xi_{k,i} + \Delta_i + \sum_{t=i+1}^M p_t^* \right). \quad (15)$$

It is not easy to obtain the explicit expression of  $p_i^*$  from (15). Define  $S_i = \sum_{t=i}^M p_t^*$  and substitute it in (15), then we can infer a recursive relation of  $S_i$ . It is obtained that

$$\begin{aligned} S_i = \sum_{j=0}^{M-i-1} 2^{\sum_{l=0}^{j-1} \gamma_{i+l}} (2^{\gamma_{i+j}} - 1) (q_k \xi_{k,i+j} \\ + \Delta_{i+j}) + 2^{\sum_{s=0}^{M-i-1} \gamma_{i+s}} S_M. \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

where  $2^{\sum_{l=0}^{-1} \gamma_{i+l}} = 1$ . Based on (14), (16) is simplified to

$$S_i = \sum_{j=0}^{M-i} 2^{\sum_{l=0}^{j-1} \gamma_{i+l}} (2^{\gamma_{i+j}} - 1) (q_k \xi_{k,i+j} + \Delta_{i+j}). \quad (17)$$

In addition, the optimal transmit power for CU  $i, \forall i \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \{M\}$  is obtained by  $p_i^* = S_i - S_{i+1}$ . By further using (17) and defining  $\sum_{l=1}^0 \gamma_{i+l} = 1$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} p_i^* = (2^{\gamma_i} - 1) \sum_{j=1}^{M-i} 2^{\sum_{l=1}^{j-1} \gamma_{i+l}} (2^{\gamma_{i+j}} - 1) (q_k \xi_{k,i+j} + \Delta_{i+j}) \\ + (2^{\gamma_i} - 1) (q_k \xi_{k,i} + \Delta_i), i \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \{M\}. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

### B. D2D Power Control and Channel Assignment

Define  $\Gamma_j = 2^{\sum_{i=1}^j \gamma_i} (2^{\gamma_{1+j}} - 1)$ . The transmit power constraint (11) is rewritten as

$$q_k^n \leq \frac{P_{\max}^C - \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \Gamma_j \Delta_{1+j}^n}{\sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \Gamma_j \xi_{k,1+j}^n}. \quad (19)$$

According to (17), constraints (4) are rewritten as

$$q_k^n \xi_{k,i}^n + \Delta_i^n \geq q_k^n \xi_{k,i+1}^n + \Delta_{i+1}^n, \forall i \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \{M\}. \quad (20)$$

Recall that  $\Delta_{i+1}^n \leq \Delta_i^n$  since  $|h_i^n| \leq |h_{i+1}^n|$ . Note that if  $\xi_{k,i}^n \geq \xi_{k,i+1}^n$ , (20) is feasible for any non-negative  $q_k^n$ . Hence,

$$q_k^n \leq \min_{\{i \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \{M\} | \xi_{k,i}^n < \xi_{k,i+1}^n\}} \left\{ \frac{\Delta_{i+1}^n - \Delta_i^n}{\xi_{k,i}^n - \xi_{k,i+1}^n} \right\}. \quad (21)$$

*Remark:* According to (21), we find that if  $\xi_{k,i}^n < \xi_{k,i+1}^n$ , one additional transmit power constraint is imposed on the D2D pair to protect the SIC decoding order of CUs. On the other hand, if the condition  $\xi_{k,i}^n \geq \xi_{k,i+1}^n$ , the SIC decoding order constraints in (4) are always satisfied.

According to (17), the rate of D2D pair  $k$  on SC  $n$  is

$$R_k^n(q_k^n) = \log_2 \left( 1 + \frac{d_k^n q_k^n}{q_k^n + e_k^n} \right), \quad (22)$$

where  $d_k^n = \frac{|g_{k,B}^n|^2}{|g_{k,B}^n|^2 \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \Gamma_j \xi_{j+1}^n + \sigma^2}$ ,  $e_k^n = \frac{|g_{k,B}^n|^2 \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \Gamma_j \Delta_{j+1}^n + \sigma^2}{|g_{k,B}^n|^2 \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \Gamma_j \xi_{j+1}^n}$ .  $\mathcal{P}1$  is simplified to

$$\mathcal{P}2 : \max_{\{\alpha_k^n, q_k^n\}} R_{\max}^D = \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_k^n R_k^n(q_k^n), \quad (23a)$$

$$\text{s.t. (6), (10),} \quad (23b)$$

$$0 \leq q_k^n \leq Q_k^n, \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, n \in \mathcal{N}, \quad (23c)$$

where

$$Q_k^n = \min \left\{ \max \left\{ 0, \frac{P_{\max}^C - \sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \Gamma_j \Delta_{1+j}^n}{\sum_{j=0}^{M-1} \Gamma_j \xi_{k,1+j}^n} \right\}, \min_{\{i \in \mathcal{M} \setminus \{M\} | \xi_{k,i}^n < \xi_{k,i+1}^n\}} \left\{ \frac{\Delta_{i+1}^n - \Delta_i^n}{\xi_{k,i}^n - \xi_{k,i+1}^n} \right\} \right\}.$$

It is easy to see that  $f(q_k^n) = \frac{d_k^n q_k^n}{q_k^n + e_k^n}$  is concave with respect to (w.r.t)  $q_k^n$ . Consequently,  $R_k^n(q_k^n)$  is concave w.r.t  $q_k^n$  due to that the logarithmic function is increasing and concave. However,  $\mathcal{P}2$  is not convex due to (23a) and (6). By introducing  $x_k^n = \alpha_k^n q_k^n$ , and temporarily relaxing the integer constraints,  $\mathcal{P}2$  is transformed into

$$\mathcal{P}3 : \max_{\substack{\alpha_k^n \in [0,1] \\ x_k^n \in [0, \alpha_k^n Q_k^n]}} R_{\max}^D(\alpha_k^n, x_k^n) = \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_k^n R_k^n \left( \frac{x_k^n}{\alpha_k^n} \right), \quad (24a)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{n=1}^N x_k^n \leq P_{\max}^D, \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, \quad (24b)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^n \leq 1, \forall n \in \mathcal{N}. \quad (24c)$$

It is inferred that  $R_{\max}^D(\alpha_k^n, x_k^n)$  is concave w.r.t  $(\alpha_k^n, x_k^n)$  due to the perspective property [3], [8], so that  $\mathcal{P}3$  is convex. Therefore, the optimal solution to  $\mathcal{P}3$  can be obtained by using the standard dual method. The Lagrangian is obtained as

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{n=1}^N \alpha_k^n R_k^n \left( \frac{x_k^n}{\alpha_k^n} \right) + \sum_{k=1}^K \lambda_k \left( P_{\max}^D - \sum_{n=1}^N x_k^n \right) + \sum_{n=1}^N \beta_n \left( 1 - \sum_{k=1}^K \alpha_k^n \right), \quad (25)$$

where  $\{\lambda_k\}$  and  $\{\beta_n\}$  are the non-negative dual variables associated with the constraints (24b) and (24c), respectively. Taking the derivative of  $\mathcal{L}$  w.r.t  $x_k^n$  and  $\alpha_k^n$  respectively, we have

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_k^n} = R_k^{n'} \left( \frac{x_k^n}{\alpha_k^n} \right) - \lambda_k, \quad (26)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \alpha_k^n} = R_k^n \left( \frac{x_k^n}{\alpha_k^n} \right) - \frac{x_k^n}{\alpha_k^n} R_k^{n'} \left( \frac{x_k^n}{\alpha_k^n} \right) - \beta_n, \quad (27)$$

where  $R_k^{n'}(t)$  is the derivative of  $R_k^n(t)$  w.r.t  $t$ . Applying the Karush-Kuhn-Tucker conditions, we can obtain the following necessary conditions for the optimal solution  $(\alpha_k^{n*}, x_k^{n*})$ .

If  $\alpha_k^{n*} = 0$ , then  $x_k^{n*} = 0$ . If  $\alpha_k^{n*} \neq 0$ , we have

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_k^n} \begin{cases} < 0, & \text{if } x_k^{n*} = 0 \\ = 0, & \text{if } x_k^{n*} \in (0, Q_k^n) \\ > 0, & \text{if } x_k^{n*} = Q_k^n \end{cases}, \quad (28)$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \alpha_k^n} \begin{cases} = 0, & \text{if } \alpha_k^{n*} \in (0, Q_k^n) \\ > 0, & \text{if } \alpha_k^{n*} = 1. \end{cases} \quad (29)$$

When  $x_k^{n*} \in (0, Q_k^n)$ ,  $x_k^{n*}$  can be obtained by solving  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial x_k^n} = 0$ . Given that  $x_k^{n*} \in [0, \alpha_k^{n*} Q_k^n]$ , we can conclude that

$$x_k^{n*} = \alpha_k^{n*} [t_k^n(\lambda_k)]_0^{Q_k^n}, \quad (30)$$

where  $t_k^n(\lambda_k) = \frac{-(d_k^n + 2)e_k^n + \sqrt{\Delta}}{2(d_k^n + 1)}$ , and  $\Delta = e_k^n d_k^{n2} + \frac{4d_k^{n2}}{\lambda_k \ln 2} + \frac{e_k^n d_k^n}{\lambda_k \ln 2}$ .  $[x]_b^a = \min\{\max\{x, b\}, a\}$ .

Define  $H_k^n = R_k^n(T_k^{n*}) - T_k^{n*} R_k^{n'}(T_k^{n*})$ . If  $H_k^n$  are all different for  $k \in \mathcal{K}$ , according to constraint (24c), we have

$$\alpha_{k'}^{n*} = 1, \alpha_k^{n*} = 0, \forall k \neq k', \quad (31)$$

where  $k' = \arg \max_k H_k^n$ . For SC  $n$ , only the D2D pair with the largest  $H_k^n$  should be assigned this SC. Note that the value of  $\lambda_k$  can be determined by the sub-gradient method [9]. The updating procedure of  $\lambda_k$  in the  $(t+1)$ -th iteration is

$$\lambda_k^{(t+1)} = \left[ \lambda_k^{(t)} - \theta_k^{(t)} \left( P_{\max}^D - \sum_n x_k^{(t)} \right) \right]^+. \quad (32)$$

where  $[a]^+ = \max\{0, a\}$ , and  $\theta_k^{(t)}$  is the positive step size. According to [9, Proposition 6.3.1], the sub-gradient method converges to the optimal solution to  $\mathcal{P}3$  for sufficient small step size  $\theta_k^{(t)}$ . Thus, the transmit power of the D2D pairs can be obtained as  $q_k^n = \alpha_k^n x_k^n$ . Overall, the above analysis is summarized as algorithm 1.

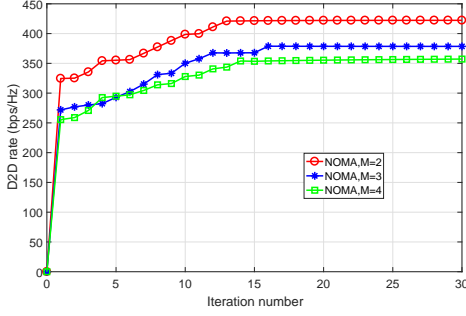


Fig. 1: Convergence performance of DBIRA algorithm.

#### IV. SIMULATION RESULTS

The performance of the proposed resource allocation scheme is evaluated by simulations in this section. The cell is a  $500 \text{ m} \times 500 \text{ m}$  square area with BS located in center. The maximum distance between each D2D transmitter and receiver is 30 m. The rate requirements for CUs are the same and denoted by  $\gamma_{th}$ . We set  $N = 30$ ,  $P_{\max}^C = 35 \text{ dBm}$ ,  $P_{\max}^D = 25 \text{ dBm}$ , and  $\sigma^2 = -114 \text{ dBm}$ . The Okumura-Hata loss model is adopted and the standard deviation of log-normal shadow fading is 4 dB. All results are averaged over 1000 random realizations. For comparison, we adopt the orthogonal frequency division multiple access (OFDMA) system that have multiple CUs on each SC as the benchmark, labeled as the MCU-OFDMA scheme, where the joint power control and channel assignment algorithm in [3] is applied. In MCU-OFDMA system, each SC is also shared by  $M$  CUs, but each CU is only allowed to access  $\frac{1}{M}$  fraction of SC bandwidth, so that the multiplexed D2D pair in MCU-OFDMA is also interfered by  $M$  co-channel CUs.

---

**Algorithm 1** Dual Based Iterative Resource Allocation (DBIRA) Algorithm

---

Initialize  $x_k^{n(0)} = 0, \alpha_k^{n(0)} = 0, \forall k \in \mathcal{K}, n \in \mathcal{N}$ .  
Initialize  $\lambda_k^{(0)}, \theta_k^{(0)}, \forall k \in \mathcal{K}$ , and set the precision  $\epsilon$ .  
**repeat**  
  **for**  $n \in \mathcal{N}, k \in \mathcal{K}$  **do**  
    Calculate  $\alpha_k^{n(t)}$  and  $x_k^{n(t)}$  according to (31) and (30);  
  **end for**  
  Update  $\lambda_k^{(t)}$  according to (32);  
  Update  $R_{\max}^{D(t)}$  according to (24a);  
**until**  $|R_{\max}^{D(t)} - R_{\max}^{D(t-1)}| < \epsilon$ ;  
  Calculate  $q_k^n$  and  $p_k^n$  according to (18) for all  $k \in \mathcal{K}, n \in \mathcal{N}$ ;  
**Output:**  $q_k^n, p_k^n, \alpha_k^{n(t)}, R_{\max}^{D(t)}$ .

---

Fig. 1 illustrates the convergence behavior of the proposed DBIRA algorithm. It is shown that the sum rate performance converges within 20 iterations for all considered three cases, which validates the effectiveness of the proposed DBIRA algorithm.

Fig. 2 shows the sum rate of D2D pairs w.r.t CUs' minimum rate requirements. The NOMA-based scheme outperforms MCU-OFDMA scheme. The CUs need larger transmit power

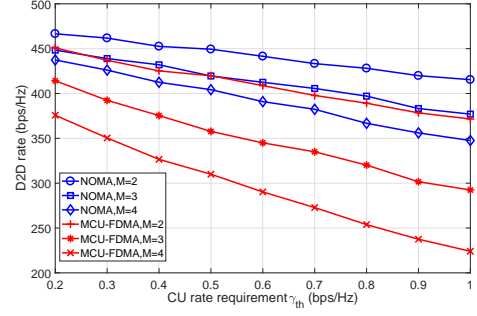


Fig. 2: D2D sum rate w.r.t CUs' rate requirements.

in MCU-OFDMA scheme to satisfy the same rate requirement, compared with NOMA-based scheme. This leads to larger interference to the D2D pairs in MCU-OFDMA scheme than that in NOMA-based scheme, since the interferences to D2D pairs are summed from all multiplexed  $M$  CUs in both MCU-OFDMA and NOMA schemes. Moreover, the sum rate of D2D pairs decreases with the rate requirements of cellular links, which is also due to the larger transmit power for CUs required by the higher data rate requirements.

#### V. CONCLUSION

The resource allocation problem for D2D communications underlying a NOMA-based cellular network was investigated in this letter. Although additional power constraints are introduced to D2D pairs for the sake of the NOMA decoding order, the D2D underlying NOMA cellular network still outperforms the conventional scheme for the network with high data requirements and myriad users.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] T. D. Hoang, L. B. Le, and T. Le-Ngoc, "Resource allocation for D2D communication underlaid cellular networks using graph-based approach," *IEEE Tans. Wireless Commun.*, vol. 15, no. 10, pp. 7099–7113, October 2016.
- [2] F. Malandrino, Z. Limani, C. Casetti, and C. F. Chiasserini, "Interference-aware downlink and uplink resource allocation in hetnets with D2D support," *IEEE Tans. Wireless Commun.*, vol. 14, no. 5, pp. 2729–2741, May 2015.
- [3] D. Zhu, J. Wang, A. L. Swindlehurst, and C. Zhao, "Downlink resource reuse for device-to-device communications underlying cellular networks," *IEEE Signal Process. Lett.*, vol. 21, no. 5, pp. 531–534, May 2014.
- [4] Z. Yang, N. Huang, H. Xu, Y. Pan, Y. Li, and M. Chen, "Downlink resource allocation and power control for device-to-device communication underlying cellular networks," *IEEE Commun. Lett.*, vol. 20, no. 7, pp. 1449–1452, July 2016.
- [5] L. Dai, B. Wang, Y. Yuan, S. Han, C. I. I, and Z. Wang, "Non-orthogonal multiple access for 5G: solutions, challenges, opportunities, and future research trends," *IEEE Commun. Mag.*, vol. 53, no. 9, pp. 74–81, September 2015.
- [6] J. Zhao, Y. Liu, K. K. Chai, Y. Chen, M. Elkashlan, and J. Alonso-Zarate, "NOMA-based D2D communications: Towards 5G," in *Proc. of the IEEE Global Commun. Conf. (GLOBECOM)*, Dec 2016, pp. 1–6.
- [7] Z. Zhang, Z. Ma, M. Xiao, Z. Ding, and P. Fan, "Full-duplex device-to-device aided cooperative non-orthogonal multiple access," *IEEE Trans. Veh. Technol.*, vol. PP, no. 99, pp. 1–1, 2016.
- [8] C. Y. Wong, R. S. Cheng, K. B. Lataief, and R. D. Murch, "Multiuser OFDM with adaptive subcarrier, bit, and power allocation," *IEEE J. Sel. Areas Commun.*, vol. 17, no. 10, pp. 1747–1758, Oct 1999.
- [9] D. P. Bertsekas, *Nonlinear programming*. Athena scientific Belmont, 1999.